

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

DRAFTED BY IO/CMD:RAPOOLE:BAL

APPROVED BY IO/CMD:RAPOOLE

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R 302025Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN LONDON VIENNA LUXEMBOURG MADRID OSLO OTTAWA PARIS
THE HAGUE TOKYO USUN NEW YORK OECD PARIS EC BRUSSELS
FROM ROME JUNE 19

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 8822

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, UN, IT

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON DEALINGS WITH REFERENCES TO CERDS

REF: (A) STATE 133602; (B) ROME 8379; (C) STATE 136591

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING UP INITIAL PRESENTATION TO CALAMIA
(MFA OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR EC, GATT, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS),
EMBOFF DISCUSSED CONSULTATION ON CERDS AND NIEO WITH MFA
OFFICE DIRECTOR MINGAZZINI (MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS), ON
JUNE 17. DESPITE INITIAL IMPRESSION THAT US POSITION TOO
NEGATIVE AND STRESSING NEED TO AVOID CONFRONTATION, MINGAZZINI
AGREED THAT CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE POTENTIALLY USEFUL IN DEALING
WITH G-77 END SUMMARY.

2. PREFACING DISCUSSION OF POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL (A)
(RELEVANT POINTS PRESENTED AS AIDE MEMOIRE), MINGAZZINI NOTED
THAT GOI WILL MAINTAIN ITS PREVIOUS NEGATIVE POSITION ON
SUBSTANTIVE REFERENCES TO CERDS AND NIEO WHILE CONTINUING TO
ACCEPT MINOR AND INNOCUOUS REFERENCES OR CITATIONS OF THOSE
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PARTS OF THE NIEO, SUCH AS THE INDUSTRIALIZATION SECTION, WHICH

THE GOI HAS FORMALLY ACCEPTED. THE OVERRIDING GOI PREFERENCE IS TO WORK WITH THE G-77 TO ELIMINATE THE UNDESIRABLE AND UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS IN BOTH THE NIEO AND CERDS. EMBOFF AGREED THAT THIS WAS ULTIMATELY DESIRABLE AND NOTED THAT THE US INITIATIVE DID NOT IMPLY AN EFFORT TO CHANGE THE ITALIAN POSITION ON CERDS OR NIEO, BUT AN EFFORT TO COORDINATE POSITIONS WHERE THEY WERE IN AGREEMENT AND TO FORGE TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE A UNITED FRONT DESIGNED TO PROTECT OUR PREVIOUSLY-EXPRESSED POSITIONS.

3. MINGAZZINI SAID THAT HIS INITIAL IMPRESSION HAD BEEN THAT THE US PROPOSALS WERE TOO NEGATIVE AND OVERLY COMPLEX. SPECIFICALLY, ITALY WOULD BE UNABLE TO ACCEPT A "BLANKET DECLARATION" WHICH HE TERMED "CONFRONTATIONAL". NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID THAT THE GOI WAS CERTAINLY WILLING TO DISCUSS ELEMENTS OF A JOINT POSITION AND TIMING. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE OECD MIGHT SERVE AS AN LOCUS FOR DISCUSSIONS.

4. COMMENT: THE GOI WILL BE ANXIOUS TO MINIMIZE ANY CONCERHED POSITION WHICH SMACKS OF CONFRONTATION WITH THE LDC'S; THEY WILL BE RECEPTIVE TO FORMULATIONS WHICH DEMONSTRABLY LESSEN SUCH PROBLEMS. DESPITE AN INITIAL TENDANCY TO SEE THE US INITIATIVE AS AN ATTEMPT TO FURTHER HARDEN DC POSITIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE CERDS AND NIEO ISSUES, THE GOI APPEARS WILLING TO ENGAGE IN JOINT CONSULTATIONS. VOLPE
UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, NONALIGNED NATIONS, CERDS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE154067
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RAPOOLE:BAL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750227-0801
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975062/aaaaabub.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 133602, 75 ROME 8379, 75 STATE 136591
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATIONS ON DEALINGS WITH REFERENCES TO CERDS
TAGS: EGEN, IT, UN
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006